

Diversion Requirements And Waste Management Specifications – *Say it right.*

Choosing environmentally conscious contractors and managing them properly is key to achieving your waste diversion targets. This begins with establishing clear requirements in a suitably worded, performance-based contract. Many projects now include specific requirements or specifications for environmental performance which provide model language to insert into the specifications for a job. This model language may address the following areas:

- using waste reduction techniques during construction
- reusing construction waste material on the site
- salvaging construction, renovation and demolition waste material from the construction site for resale or reuse by others
- returning unused construction material to vendors for credit
- recycling construction, renovation and demolition waste by delivering it to other sites for remanufacture into new products
- rewarding waste diversion success or penalties for non-compliance.

Many project managers are including contract provisions to minimize environmental impacts of their projects, including waste reduction and greenhouse gas emission reductions. Contractors and trades providing these value-added services will be better positioned to respond to tenders.

Project managers could also include a general requirement that an underlying commitment to sustainable architecture and construction practices be reflected in all aspects of the project.

Contracts can include measurable standards specifying minimal use of resources and energy, and ensuring any wastes generated during the demolition, renovation and construction process be reused to the fullest extent possible. For example, this could be achieved by requiring the successful bidder to submit draft and final waste management plans aimed at supporting the project proponent's regulatory requirements.

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